

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A piezoelectric oscillator comprising:
a piezoelectric element to be excited at a predetermined frequency; and
an ECL circuit for exciting said piezoelectric element by supplying current to said piezoelectric element;
wherein:
a non-inverted output terminal of said ECL circuit is grounded via a ~~capacitor~~ capacitor, and is connected to a non-inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit via series-connected capacitors;
said non-inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit is connected via a resistor to an inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit, and is grounded via a capacitor; and
the connection point of said series-connected capacitors is grounded via said piezoelectric element and a frequency control element.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A piezoelectric oscillator comprising:
a piezoelectric element to be excited at a predetermined frequency; and
an ECL circuit for exciting said piezoelectric element by supplying current to said piezoelectric element;
wherein:
an inverted output terminal of said ECL circuit is grounded via a ~~capacitor~~ capacitor, and is connected to an inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit via a capacitor;
said inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit is connected via a resistor to a non-inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit, and is grounded via a capacitor; and
said inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit is grounded via said piezoelectric element and a frequency control element.

Claim 3 (original): The piezoelectric oscillator of claim 1, wherein said series-connected capacitors, which are connected to the non-inverting and inverting input terminals of said ECL circuit, respectively, are each to set a negative resistance value of said piezoelectric oscillator.